

Grade Crossing Improvement Program



INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
Driving Indiana's Economic Growth

FY 2008 Closure Application

Introduction

The state of Indiana continues its efforts to promote safety at public rail-highway intersections. The 1997 General Assembly with the support of the Railroad Corridor Safety Committee appropriated funding to carry out the provisions of Indiana Code 8-6-7. Pursuant to Indiana Code 8-6-7.7-6.1, the Railroad Grade Crossing Fund provides funding for railroad crossing safety improvements. There is \$300,000 set aside for the Crossing Closure Program. These guidelines pertain to the Crossing Closure Program.

According to the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA), the most effective way to improve railroad crossing safety is to close crossings. Thus, INDOT will continue this program for communities that choose to permanently close crossings.

The Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) Rail Office will manage this program as a lump sum payment grant. Once the crossing is closed, the community will receive a lump sum payment. The source of this funding is the Indiana Motor Vehicle Highway Fund, so the lump sum payment provided under this program may only be used by cities and towns for the construction or reconstruction and maintenance of streets and alleys and by counties for the reconstruction, maintenance or repair of county highways or bridges. The local public agency has the discretion to select the projects funded by the payment. A local public agency can receive from \$15,000 up to \$55,000 to close a crossing.

The amount awarded through this program by INDOT is independent of any contribution made by a railroad. Completed applications should be sent to Mike Riley at the following address:

INDOT Local Programs, Rail Office
100 N. Senate, Room N955
Indianapolis, IN 46204

Application Procedures

Only one crossing can be included in each application submitted by a unit of government for the Crossing Closure Program; however, units can submit more than one application per fiscal year.

Applications will be accepted on an ongoing process until funds are exhausted. A complete application includes the Project Summary and the Predicted Accident Report from the FRA Office of Safety. The Project Summary is included at the end of this packet. This form can be completed and submitted, or it can be reproduced, provided it is reproduced exactly as it appears. Directions on how to generate the Predicted Accident Rate Report follow.

To generate the Predicted Accident Rate Report, first identify the AARDOT crossing number located on the crossbuck at a given crossing. Record this number. If you cannot locate this information, please contact the Rail Office at (317) 232-1474.

Next, access the FRA Office of Safety Highway-Rail Crossing Inventory & Accidents Page at the internet site: <http://safetydata.fra.dot.gov/OfficeofSafety/NewCrossing/Default.asp>

You will be brought to the Inventory & Accidents Page. From here, select *Accident Prediction* from the left. This will take you to the Web Accident Prediction System (WBAPS) – Step 1. select *By Crossing*, then *Next*.

This will take you to Step 2. Enter the crossing identification number into the *Single Crossing* box and select *Next*.

Step 3 is the final step towards determining the predicted accident rate for a given crossing. Be sure that these items are selected in the blue box: “30;” “Prediction Report;” “Disclaimer/Abbrev Key;” “View Report;” “Annual Report;” and select *Next*.

You have now generated a report that provides the predicted accident rate for a given crossing. In the generated report, the predicted accident rate can be found in the *PRED COLLS* field.

Please provide a copy of this report with the Project Summary. Displays of these web pages are at the end of this packet.

Selection Process

Projects will be funded in the order of their U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) predicted accident rate (highest to lowest) until available funds are exhausted. A local public agency can receive from \$15,000 up to \$55,000 to close a crossing. The funding matrix below will be used to determine the amount INDOT will pay a city, county, or town to close a crossing.

\$15,000	\$25,000	\$40,000	\$55,000
$R \leq 0.001$	$0.001 < R \leq 0.01$	$0.01 < R \leq 0.02$	Rate > 0.02
Predicted Accident Rate			

When two crossings have identical predicted accident rates, and funds are not available for both, the selection committee will make the final decision as to which application is funded. If a crossing is not selected for funding in a given fiscal year, the applicant must resubmit an application for the crossing to be included in the subsequent year’s pool of Crossing Closure candidates.

Grant Monitoring

Applicants receiving a grant are required to retain material reports for two years after completion of the project. The Local Public Agency should notify INDOT when the crossing has been closed, so that INDOT can conduct a site inspection. Grantees have twelve (12) months following the date of the purchase order to complete the Crossing Closure. The State of Indiana encourages the use of minority owned business enterprises (MBE) and women owned business enterprises (WBE) participation on state funded grants when possible.

Frequently Asked Questions about the Crossing Closure Program of the Railroad Grade Crossing Fund

1. *When will I receive the money from this grant?*
The local public agency will receive the grant award after INDOT has been advised the project is completed and a Rail Office employee(s) inspect(s) the Crossing Closure project, and verifies it is completed.
2. *Who should execute the contracts?*
The highest ranking elected official or their designee; usually the city mayor, president of the county board of commissioners, or town president.
3. *How can I spend the lump sum payment?*
The grant should be spent for all associated costs involved in closing the crossing, including material and labor. All funds remaining after the crossing is closed must be used by cities and towns for the construction or reconstruction and maintenance of streets and alleys and by counties for the reconstruction, maintenance or repair of county highways or bridges.
4. *How long does it take to get a fully executed contract after it is submitted to the State?*
Approximately 8-10 weeks. Each grantee must receive clearance from the Department of Revenue and the Department of Workforce Development.
5. *Are project funds eligible for use at crossings with train activated warning devices?*
No, the Crossing Closure Program is for passively warned crossing locations.
6. *Can I apply for more than one Crossing Closure project?*
Yes, an application should be submitted for each project.
7. *May I apply for funding in successive years?*
Yes, but there is no guarantee funds will be awarded in successive years.
8. *How much time do I have to complete the project?*
Twelve months from the date the purchase order is generated the crossing closure should be completed.
9. *Is there a maximum grant award?*
Yes, the maximum grant award is \$55,000.00 per project depending on the predicted accident rate.

10. *Will I receive the original contract back?*
No, grantees sign one contract, which after fully executed, is kept by the Contract Administration division. You will receive a copy.
11. *Who do I contact if I have questions?*
Michael Riley at 317-232-1491 or Venetta Keefe at 317-232-1474.
12. *I did not receive a grant. How can I appeal that decision?*
The applicant must send, by certified mail, an appeal within 15 calendar days after receiving notification of INDOT's decision. The appeal must be mailed to:

John Jordan, Director
Local Programs Division
Indiana Department of Transportation
100 N. Senate Avenue, Room 955
Indianapolis, IN 46204

The Local Programs Director will make a final decision within 15 working days of the appeal request or additional materials and will notify the applicant in writing of the final decision.

Project Summary
Local Public Agency Application for a Crossing Closure Project
FY08 Railroad Grade Crossings Fund

Applicant Name

Mailing Address

Contact Name, Title

Phone Number

Fax Number

Email Address

Federal ID Number:

Crossing Number – (DOT AAR#):

County:

Cross Streets:

FRA Office of Safety Highway-Rail Crossing Inventory & Accidents Page

FRA Office of Safety Home Page - Microsoft Internet Explorer provided by Division of System Technology

File Edit View Favorites Tools Help

Back Forward Stop Home Search Favorites Refresh Print Mail Address http://safetydata.fra.dot.gov/OfficeofSafety/NewCrossing/Default.asp Go

Federal Railroad Administration
Office of Safety Analysis

What's New Contact

Visitor # 1653249

Home Crossing Forms/Publications Downloads Query FAQ AF/EP

Highway-Rail Crossing Inventory & Accidents Page

Please click on one of the links below or enter a crossing number, pick the report type and click on the **Generate Report** button to produce the Report.

[Query by Location/Railroad](#)
[Query by Crossing](#)
[Accident Prediction](#)
[DOT Crossing INVENTORY Information](#)
[Help for Accessing Crossing Data](#)
[Maps](#)
[Notice](#)
[Using This Site](#)

Report Type: ☒ Inventory ☐ Accident ☐ Contact Sheet

Crossing#

Inventory: ☒ Current ☐ History

Inventory file as of: 05/31/2006
Accident file as of: 04/30/2006

Done Internet

Web Accident Prediction System (WBAPS) – Step 1

FRA Office of Safety Home Page - Microsoft Internet Explorer provided by Division of System Technology

File Edit View Favorites Tools Help

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Office of Safety Analysis

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Home Crossing Forms/Publications Downloads Query FAQ AF/EP

FRA Highway-Rail Crossing Web Accident Prediction System (WBAPS)

STEP 1: Choose to search by Location (State, County, City) and/or Railroad, or by Crossing (Single Crossing or Range of Crossings):

☐ By Location/Railroad

☒ By Crossing

WBAPS

Internet

Crossing Number Entry Web Accident Prediction System (WBAPS) – Step 2

FRA Office of Safety Home Page - Microsoft Internet Explorer provided by Division of System Technology

File Edit View Favorites Tools Help

Back Forward Stop Search Favorites Print Mail RSS

Address http://safetydata.fra.dot.gov/OfficeofSafety/NewCrossing/Default.asp Go

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Home Crossing Forms/Publications Downloads Query FAQ AF/EP

Welcome to the FRA Highway-Rail Crossing
Web Accident Prediction System (WBAPS)

STEP 2: First, choose search strategy (Single Crossing or Range of Crossings).
Second, enter crossing number(s).
Then choose Next.

Select Crossing:

☒ Single Crossing:

☐ Range of Crossings: From: To:

<< Back Reset Next >>

Internet

Crossing Number Entry Web Accident Prediction System (WBAPS) – Step 3

FRA Office of Safety Home Page - Microsoft Internet Explorer provided by Division of System Technology

File Edit View Favorites Tools Help

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FRA Highway-Rail Crossing
Web Accident Prediction System (WBAPS)

STEP 3:

1. Specify number of records to output in report(s).
2. Select type of reports you want.
3. Choose to View or Download.

Then choose "Next" to view report(s).

<< Back Reset Next >>

How many records?

☒ 30 ☐ 50 ☐ 100

☐ ALL ☐ Specify

Reports

☐ Cover Sheet ☒ Disclaimer/Abbrev.Key

☒ Prediction Report ☐ Accident History

☐ Crossing Profile ☐ Contact Sheet

☒ View Report ☐ Download

☒ Annual Report ☐ Cyclic Report

Internet